

Non-Payment of Cash Compensation to Widows

2510. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR:

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints for non-payment of cash compensation or any other relief to the widows/dependents of the Army personnel killed in Kargil was in 1999;

(b) if so, the number of pending cases so far and the number of cases finally disposed of with the total compensation amount already paid; and

(c) whether all cases of compensation to the families of those killed during the 1965 and 1971 wars have been finalised; if not, the number of pending cases, if any?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The dues of ex-gratia, liberalised family pension, gratuity and other benefits have been sanctioned/paid to dependant families of all casualties in the Kargil operation except in 11 cases. In 5 cases the deceased soldiers had died as bachelors and their parents had pre-deceased them and, therefore, the claims of other claimants are under investigation. Four cases are pending in courts on account of disputes between the widow and-or parents and other claimants. In one case while the widow has been paid the ex-gratia amount of Rs. 10 lakh, the liberalised family pension has not yet been sanctioned because the father has made a claim for pension. In one case where the soldier had died as bachelor, the father has not submitted necessary documents for grant of the benefits.

(c) Information is being collected.